

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALL-
EN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY
SERGEANT (SGT) JOHN MCCLELL-
LAN SMITH

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Army Sergeant (SGT) John McClellan Smith who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our great nation on May 12, 2005, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. SGT Smith was killed when an improvised explosive device detonated near his convoy in Iskandariyah, Iraq. During his tour in Iraq, SGT Smith's assignment was to train members of the Iraqi National Guard.

SGT Smith was assigned to the 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Irwin, California, which was attached to the 155th BCT of Mississippi. He was a member of the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg before joining the California unit. SGT Smith was a JROTC cadet at New Hanover High School in Wilmington, North Carolina where he also played football, baseball, and lacrosse before graduating in 2000.

During SGT Smith's funeral, Brigadier General Mike Ferriter of the 82nd Airborne Division presented Smith's mother, Judy Smith, with the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, the Iraqi Campaign Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal.

Sergeant First Class Richard Mitchell of the 82nd Airborne Division presented Mrs. Smith with the American flag. He told the Associated Press that SGT Smith was committed to serving his country.

"Smitty was a great soldier," SFC Mitchell said. "He died doing what he wanted to do."

SGT Smith's devotion to his nation will not be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF EDWARD W.
STANKS, RECIPIENT OF THE 2017
WYOMING VALLEY CHILDREN'S
ASSOCIATION "MAKING A DIF-
FERENCE" AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Edward W. Stanks, Jr., CPA who will be honored on May 13 by the Wyoming Valley Children's Association. Ed will receive the 2017 "Making a Difference Award" for his continued involvement in the Children's Association. Ed has served on the WVCA board as treasurer for over fifteen years. He has shared his knowledge, expertise, and countless hours of his time to help the children of northeastern Pennsylvania.

Ed has worked as a Certified Public Accountant for nearly four decades for companies like Coopers and Lybrand (now Price Waterhouse Coopers/PwC) and Baron, Strassmen & Co. (now Kronick, Kalada, Berdy, & Co., P.C.). Today, Ed owns and operates his own accounting office in Kingston, Pennsylvania. In addition to serving the Wyoming Valley Children's Association, Ed is a

member of the American Institute of CPAs and the Pennsylvania Institute of CPAs. He is the former president and treasurer of the Rotary Club of Kingston. He was also named a Paul Harris Fellow of the Kingston Rotary Club. Ed also serves as the treasurer of the Exodus Prison & Aftercare Ministry. He belongs to St. Therese's Parish in Shavertown, where he serves on the finance council and helps with the music ministry.

It is an honor to recognize Ed Stanks, Jr. for his service to the Wyoming Valley Children Association, an outstanding organization helping to provide the therapeutic support needed to give all of the children in northeastern Pennsylvania a quality early childhood education. I am truly grateful for his efforts.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF THE HEMINGWAY
INTERNATIONAL YACHT CLUB,
HAVANA, CUBA

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, the Ocean Passages maritime educational program and the state of Maine, home port of the schooner *Harvey Gamage*, would like to congratulate Commodore Lic. José Miguel Diaz Escrich and the Hemingway International Yacht Club of Havana, Cuba, on the occasion of its 25th Anniversary, being celebrated this month.

For 25 years, the Hemingway International Yacht Club has welcomed scores of international visitors from around the world—and consistently promoted stronger ties between Cuba and the United States through cooperative sailing and maritime programs.

Drawing on the long history of shared Cuban-American nautical traditions, symbolized above all by Ernest Hemingway's love of the sea and his adoption of Cuba as his second country, the Hemingway International Yacht Club has sought to keep alive the importance of Cuba's rich marine heritage.

The schooner *Harvey Gamage* first sailed into Marina Hemingway in Havana in February 2016—and members of the Ocean Passages program have worked closely with Commodore Escrich in promoting the participation of American sport fishing boats in the annual Hemingway International Billfishing Tournament.

As Ocean Passages grows its educational and training programs in Cuban waters, we look forward to deepening that cooperation across the ocean we share. As the Maine poet Richard Blanco wrote in *Cosas del Mar* on the occasion of the restoration of bilateral diplomatic relations:

... Today, the sea still telling us,
the end to all our doubts and fears
is to gaze into the lucid blues of our shared
horizon,

to breathe together, to heal together.

Ernest Hemingway donated his 1954 Nobel Literature prize medal to the people of Cuba, saying "this award belongs to the people of Cuba, because my works were created and conceived in Cuba, in my village of Cojimar, of which I am a citizen."

It is in that spirit that Ocean Passages and the state of Maine congratulate Commodore

Escrich and the Hemingway International Yacht Club and look forward to fruitful co-operation for many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. DAILY'S
3RD GRADE CLASS

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bright young artists in Mrs. Daily's 3rd grade class at Garfield Elementary in Livonia, Michigan.

I know that artists get their start long before high school and college, learning to expand their imagination and foster their creativity in classrooms just like Mrs. Daily's.

In an effort to highlight young artists from across Michigan's 11th Congressional District, this year, I announced the 1st Annual "Color my Capitol" Program.

Brimming with talent, Mrs. Daily's students were eager to showcase their amazing artistic skills and take part in this one-of-a-kind program.

Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Daily's 3rd graders did not disappoint. Their creations are unique, innovative, and imaginative. Their colorful artwork embodies our country's bright and promising future with these sharp young minds leading the way.

It is my utmost honor to have their artwork displayed in my Congressional district office in Troy, Michigan for everyone who visits to enjoy. Each and every time I walk into my office, I am reminded of their talent.

Congratulations to Mrs. Daily and the young artists she has the pleasure of teaching.

CELEBRATING CHARLOTTE
ZIMMERMAN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Charlotte Zimmerman, who turned 90 years young today. Charlotte is an active member of Hadassah in South Florida and a beloved mother of four, grandmother of six, and great-grandmother of four.

Throughout her life Charlotte is an example to us all, staying healthy and aging with grace. She is a patron of the arts, including ballet, drama, music, and opera. She grew up in Richmond Hill, New York and now lives in Boca Raton, Florida.

I join with Charlotte's friends and family in celebrating her birthday. I wish her good health and continued success in the coming year.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF FIRE CHIEF KEVIN D. SUTTON

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life and legacy of